



December 17, 2015

Vol. 4 No. 23

THE PROSPECTOR

Serving the Corps since 1943
Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California



**MCICOM/I&L Generals
Tour MCLB Barstow**

**MCPD 10 Year
Anniversary**

Trees for Troops

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Eagle Eyes is a watch program for community awareness and involvement.

On The Cover:

Front Cover: Carlos Guerra

Major General Charles Hudson, commanding general, MCICOM and assistant deputy commandant of Installations and Logistics (Facilities), tours Pettit Hall, the junior enlisted barracks aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., with Colonel Sekou S. Karega, base commander, Major Christian Carlson, operations officer and Sgt. Maj. Karl Simburger, base sergeant major, Dec. 10.

Back Cover: Laurie Pearson

Cpl. Kristina Zamora, a postal clerk, and members of the Security and Emergency Services collect toys, donations and good wishes from drivers entering the Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., during the Marine Corps Toys for Tots holiday collection event, Dec. 8.



Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California
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 Sgt. Maj. Karl D. Simburger, Base Sergeant Major

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On the web

Links in this publication are interactive in the online version

Website: <http://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Marine-Corps-Logistics-Base-MCLB-Barstow/116845431679314>

http://www.twitter.com/#!/MCLB_Barstow

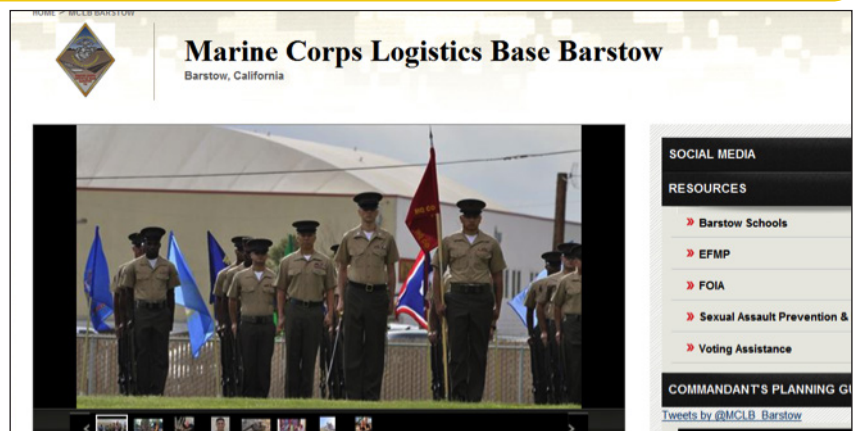




Photo by: Robert L. Jackson

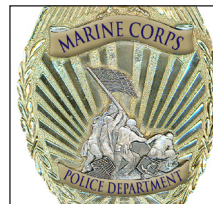
Shriner's Club clown Ya You is the master of ceremonies for the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad Christmas train ride. The annual event draws military families together to enjoy a unique treat by taking a ride

on a real train. About 200 people from Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow and Fort Irwin, Calif., gathered Dec. 12 to share in the fun, get goody bags and have balloon animals made for the children.

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News Briefs

Leave Share Program

Individuals currently affected by medical emergencies and in need of leave donations:

Kenneth Breckenridge
Kristal Ford
Bernadette Andrews
Wanetta Blackwell

Anyone desiring to donate annual leave under the Leave Share Program should contact the Human Resources Office at 577-6915.

Santa is Coming MCLB Commissary Dec. 21-Noon

Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus will be at the Barstow Commissary Monday, Dec. 21, from Noon to 2 p.m. Bring your cameras for pictures. Candy canes will be handed out and children will have the chance to win prizes. For more information call the commissary at (760) 256-6760 ext. 399.

Birthday Parties Desert Lanes Bowling Center

Host your next party at Desert Lanes! Enjoy two hours of bowling plus popcorn, shoe rentals, decorations, and even fabulous games like Glo-Bowl and Lucky Train, all for just \$9 per person! Each person gets a certificate for a free game on their next visit. For more information contact 577-6264.

Community Counseling Program Movie Night Desert Lanes Bowling Center Jan. 8 5-7 p.m.

Bring your family and join us as we watch a fun family-friendly movie! Bowling Lanes will be free and refreshments will be available for purchase. Be sure to stop by the information booths before the movie starts. For more information call Marine and Family Programs at 577-6533.

Play Morning

Desert View Housing Comm Ctr. Every Friday 9 a.m.

Come join in the fun! Marine Corps Family Team Building and Victor Community Support Services invite all active duty and their dependents with children to come each week. Enjoy singing, stories, crafts, and play time. For more information contact New Parent Support at 577-6264.

Family Restaurant Remodel Temporarily Closed Dec. 23 - Jan. 1

The Family Restaurant will be closed between Dec. 23 to Jan. 3 for renovations. Pizza, salad, hot dogs and sandwiches will be available at the MCX. Please call 577-6269 with any questions.

NMCRS Thrift Store Holiday Closure Until Jan. 1

The Thrift Store will be temporarily closed until Jan 1. Please do not drop off any donations during this time. Call Staff Sgt. Kratzer with any questions at 577-6194.

Cyber Security Protecting Operational Information

As part of the S-6 Communications Department's continuing efforts to provide excellence in customer service and keep you informed, please view the December 2015 edition of the MCLB S-6 Cyber Security Sense on Protecting Operational Information. If you have any questions or need to report a Cyber Security Incident, please contact Cyber Security Office at bstwiaworkrequests@usmc.mil, or the S-6 service desk at 577-6780, or bstw_helpdesk@usmc.mil for assistance.

Nurse Advice Line: 1-800-TRICARE

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Seeking New Chair of Volunteer

NMCRS Barstow is looking to fill a volunteer position for the following: Chairman of Volunteers (COV) to manage volunteer operations in partnership with the NMCRS Camp Pendleton, Director and Thrift Store contributors. The COV position is highly regarded within the society and will contribute greatly towards job training and experience. If you have a passion for retail, the NMCRS Thrift Store is definitely for you! We are seeking a person with energy, passion and creativity to help sort, display, market the various forms of donations that come in. NMCRS offers mileage and childcare reimbursement. Interested candidates, please email retna.shaw@nmcrs.org or hannah.hick@nmcrs.com and they will be in contact with you shortly. For more information call (760) 725-5337.

L.I.N.K.S. Team Meeting: Pay Day Hobby Shop Jan. 12 9 a.m.

Your spending style and ideas of needs and wants is very important from the beginning of your marriage, before and after a baby, or before a move. For more information call 577-6408.

Energy Conservation Tips of the Week

1. Limit hourly usage of holiday lighting.
2. Consider buying timers to automatically turn lights on and off.
3. Use light-emitting diode "LED" holiday light strings to reduce the cost of decorating your home for the winter holidays.

Logistics generals visit Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow



Photo by: Keith Hayes

Maj. Gen. Charles L. Hudson (second right), commanding general, Marine Corps Installations Command, chats with

Marines during lunch as part of his tour of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., Dec. 8.



Photo by: Carlos Guerra

(Above) Lt. Gen. Michael G. Dana, (left), under the guidance of locomotive engineer Ben Salazar, checks the railroad tracks to the rear as he backs up a locomotive at the rail operations yard aboard the Yermo annex of Marine Corp Logistics Base Barstow, Dec. 11.



Photo by: Carlos Guerra

MajGen Hudson tours the new barracks building 175 while barracks manager Cpl Steven Rodriguez and base sergeant major, Sergeant Major Karl D Simburger, answer questions.



Photo by: Carlos Guerra

LtGen Michael G. Dana (right), deputy commandant, Installations and Logistics, Headquarters Marine Corps, and Robert "Chip" Schwartz, manager, Production Plant Barstow, take a tour of building 573 aboard the Yermo annex of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Dec. 11.

F-35B tested in Exercise Steel Knight 2016

Story and Photo By: Lance Cpl. Levi Schultz
Marine Corps Air Ground Combat
Center Twentynine Palms



An F-35B Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, performs a conventional take-off at the Strategic Expeditionary Landing Field during Exercise Steel Knight 2016 at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center

Twentynine Palms, California, Dec. 11, 2015. This year's iteration of Exercise Steel Knight works to advance 1st Marine Division's warfighting capabilities, to include interoperability between the ground and air forces and integration of the F-35B.

The F-35B Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter personifies great strides in modern air dominance capability. Among its characteristics of radar-evading stealth, supersonic speeds, fighter agility and advanced logistical support comes the capability to perform vertical take-off and landings.

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, is the first Marine Corps unit to reach initial operational capability with the F-35B and is utilizing the aircraft during Exercise Steel Knight 2016, an annual training operation designed to prepare the 1st Marine Division for deployment as the ground combat element of a Marine Air Ground Task Force. This year's exercise, taking place throughout Southern California aboard Naval Base San Diego; Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton; and the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif.; was designed to improve upon the interoperability of ground and air forces as well as the integration of the F-35B.

To facilitate testing of the aircraft's VTOL capabilities in an expeditionary environment, Marine Wing Support Squadron 374 constructed a 204 feet by 200 feet VTOL pad at the Strategic Expeditionary Landing Field. In addition, the support squadron constructed a 150 feet by 96 feet taxiway to connect the landing zone to the main landing field and hangar.

"The primary purpose of this landing zone was to test the F-35B on this type of matting to ensure it would not melt during its VTOL," said Lance Cpl. Stephen Garcas, surveying and drafting specialist, MWSS-374. "It certainly passed the test."

According to Capt. Jonathan H. Royer, assistance operation officer, MWSS-374, the landing zone will serve for emergency purposes throughout the remainder of Steel Knight 16 but has the potential to be utilized in future training.

"Because this is the first time the F-35B is out here on an expeditionary landing field we

built the [VTOL] Pad in the event that there is an emergency so they have more than one option to get the aircraft on the deck," said Royer.

MWSS-374 undertook the project of creating the landing zone in just under two and a half weeks, a task that was projected to take two months. The task depended on the heavy equipment required, to remove four inches of concrete before any other work could be done on the site.

"One of the biggest challenges we face in the construction of a landing zone is getting the sand to compact as needed," said Staff Sgt. John A. Vasquez, engineer equipment operator, MWSS-374. "It took my Marines 17 long days to ensure the pad was put together."

According to Royer the project was an opportunity for the 'Rhinos' to show off their capabilities. "It was a good test of detailed planning and communication," said Royer. "With the backstop of the requirements and the strict deadline, the Marines had very little room for error." 🦖

Trees for Troops 2015

Photos By: Carlos Guerra
Combat Camera Chief



Award winners and state leaders



Photo by: Keith Hayes

Col. Sekou S. Karega (center), commanding officer, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., is flanked by Marines and Civilian Marines who were recognized for their outstanding contributions to MCLB Barstow

and its mission. The awardees were announced at the Quarterly Awards Breakfast held at the James L. Day Center aboard the base Dec. 2.



Photo by: Robert L. Jackson

Assemblyman Jay Olberholte of California's 33rd Assembly District, meets with members of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow command group, which included Col. Sekou Karega, commanding officer, during his visit to the

installation Dec. 14. This was his first tour of the base. The purpose of the visit was to get insight on the overall mission of the base, how it supports the warfighter, the Department of Defense and the local community.

Ten years of civilian police at MCLB Barstow

Story by:

Laurie Pearson

Public Affairs Specialist

The Marine Corps Police Department acknowledges its tenth anniversary as a civilian police force aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., this year.

In 2005, MCLB Barstow became the first Marine Corps base to transition from military police to a civilian police force, paving the way for the next two bases, Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, Ga., and Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island in Jacksonville, Fla., to follow suit. There was a great deal of collaboration with Headquarters Marine Corps in Washington, D.C., during the transition to ensure that proper regulatory requirements were met, processes were in place and entitlements were clear, said

Luciana Wais, personnel operations branch head for Human Resources aboard MCLB Barstow.

The first civilian police employees came on board as GS: 03 interns and GS: 04 employees promotable to GS: 05 then 07 positions. These initial MCPD employees began their academies in 2006, then went through the standard hands-on training with field training officers before serving in their hired roles.

Ten employees from the first wave of hiring for MCPD still work aboard MCLB Barstow in leadership roles.

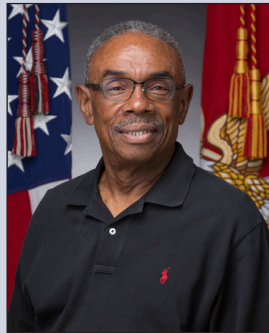
“The officers are doing an outstanding job with providing security and law enforcement to the employees and family members

who work and live aboard the installation,” said Chief of Police Darwin O’Neal. “I see nothing, but great things. Some officers will move on to other things, but some will remain and progress up through the ranks,” he continued.

As these 10 employees demonstrate their loyalty to the base and to supporting the Marine Corps mission, they set an example for new employees to follow. The MCPD has 21 open positions at this time, which O’Neal expects to fill within the next year. Anyone who wants a career in law enforcement usually starts at an entry level position, but may rest assured that with hard work and dedication to training, doors to promotions open. 🇺🇸



Robert Avila
Supervisory Police
Officer



Charles Ayers
Physical Security
Officer



Vareese Brown
Supervisory Criminal
Investigator



Myra Herrera
Lead Police Officer



Jeffery Hinton
Supervisory Security
Guard MDMC



Lyndsey Kaulave
Assistant Command
Inspector General



Lori Morgan
Security Manager



Gilberto Navarrete
K-9 Handler



Robert Ortiz
K-9 Kennel Master



Justin Witcher
Supervisory Police
Officer

Security Augmentation Force trains through the tears

Photos By:
Carlos Guerra
Combat Camera Chief

Members of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., Security Augmentation Force trained Dec. 8 with oleoresin capsicum, OC, spray, to gain practical experience in how to protect themselves and continue to function in a riot or mob situation. The SAF is comprised of Marines from various departments aboard the installation trained to back up civilian law enforcement aboard the base in times of emergency or unrest.

Thomas Streeter, lead instructor, Homeland Security Solutions, Inc., sprayed Marines in the face with OC. Streeter coached them through how to fight as well as take down opponents while under the liquid's painful, tear-inducing effects. 🦁



Sgt. Gratia Akakpo, (right) supply administrator aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, practices approaching an opponent while under the stress of OC, oleoresin capsicum, spray during the MCLB security augmentation force training Dec. 8.



Streeter sprays Sgt. Gratia Akakpo with OC during the MCLB security augmentation force training Dec. 8. Sgt. Akakpo, supply administrator aboard MCLB, and Marines from various departments aboard the installation participated in the training.



Lance Cpl. Monica F. Hilpisch, (left) stableman with the Mounted Color Guard aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, knee strikes a simulated opponent after being sprayed with OC during the MCLB security augmentation force training.



Lance Cpl. Daija L. Watt, postal clerk, MCLB Barstow, takes aim while under the effects of OC during SAF training aboard the base Dec. 8.



Staff Sgt. Justin R. Kratzer, (left), radio maintenance chief, MCLB Barstow, swings a padded practice baton while suffering the effects of OC spray to learn how to defend himself and his team under stress of chemical attack.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER:

The holiday season and the "Art of Giving"

Submitted By:
Lt. Heath E. Taylor
Staff Chaplain

Each year not long after the Thanksgiving dinner ends, our family gathers to make a list of all of the people that will receive gifts from us throughout the holiday season. Although the list seems to grow longer and require more creative budgeting year after year, it's a fun way for us sit and think through which gift would be right for each person. We think of the coaches, teachers, chapel volunteers, family members and friends that have been important to us throughout the year and attempt to find just the right gift at just the right price that demonstrates an appreciation of the relationship we share.

To give a full disclaimer from the start, my wife is MUCH better at this than I am. While I'm pretty good at selecting gag and inexpensive white elephant gifts, she puts a lot of time, thought and effort into making each gift we select special and meaningful to the individual person. Often times at parties, gatherings and celebrations I overhear people thanking her for

the gift she selected and just how practical or meaningful it has become to them.

Part of the reason she is such a good gift-giver is because it is the way she expresses her love for others and over time she has become very well practiced in the art. I tend to use words of encouragement or affirmation to express my gratitude but for her, it is gift-giving every time. The great thing about the holiday season is that it provides those of us who may be challenged in this area a perfect opportunity to practice and improve gift-giving skills.

So as we continue along this holiday season celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, the New Year or just life and relationships in general, try and make it a point to practice the art of giving of yourself to others. You just may find as the old adage goes, it truly is better to give than to receive.

Happy Holidays,
Chaplain Taylor



